

## LOWER FREMONT RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 6, 1976 - 10:00 A.M.

The annual meeting of the Lower Fremont River Distribution System and the Road Creek Distribution System was convened in the Wayne County Courthouse at Loa, Utah at 10:15 a.m. April 6, 1976. The meeting was chaired by Don Norseth, Distribution Engineer for the Division of Water Rights. Those in attendance and their affiliation are as follows:

John Bene - Deputy State Engineer, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Don Norseth - Distribution Engineer, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Kenward H. McKinney - Area Engineer, Division of Water Rights, Price, Utah  
Spencer Rees - Road Creek  
Boyd Black - Self, Caineville Canal Company, Torrey Irrigation Company  
Talmage Jensen - Self  
Golden Durfey - Durfey Brothers Ranch  
Blain Chappell - Road Creek  
Devon Rees - Road Creek  
Chap Taylor - Road Creek

Mr. Norseth stated that Judge Tibbs had indicated that he was going to turn the direct responsibility for operation of the distribution system over to the State Engineer. Mr. Norseth indicated that sometime after receipt of the order from the Judge, the distribution system would be organized with a board of directors, with a chairman and secretary, all elected by the water users.

The minutes of the 1975 meeting were then read by Mr. McKinney. When asked for discussion on the minutes, Grant Chappell indicated that the original mileage budget item was for 6000 miles. As the mileage allowance was increased, the mileage limit was decreased so that the budget item remained the same. He indicated that he had not exceeded the 4800 mile limit, but that in a dry year, which requires closer water regulation, there was the possibility that the 4800 mile limitation might be exceeded. He was not sure that this was the time to bring the matter up, but since the 4800 miles was mentioned in the minutes, he would put the matter before the water users at this time. It was moved by Spencer Rees and seconded by Boyd Black that the minutes be accepted as read. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

John Bene, Deputy State Engineer, read the Lower Fremont Financial Statement and Don Norseth, Distribution Engineer, read the Road Creek Financial Statement. It was moved by Golden Durfey and seconded by Talmage Jensen to accept the financial statements as read. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

There was then discussion on the matter of a Lower Fremont River Commissioner for 1976. Golden Durfey commended Mr. Chappell on a job well done in 1975. Mr. Chappell indicated that he would be available as Lower Fremont River Commissioner for 1976 under the same terms and conditions as in 1975. There was some discussion about the mileage allowance in relation to gasoline costs for 1976. It was felt that gasoline prices would probably remain stable, at least until after the election in November and Mr. Chappell reiterated that he would accept the Commissioner position under the 1975 conditions. Golden Durfey moved and Talmage Jensen seconded that Grant Chappell be recommended as Commissioner for 1976. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

Spencer Rees then commended Grant Chappell for a job well done on the Road Creek system for 1975. Mr. Rees also suggested that since the construction of the Road Creek pressure pipeline was essentially complete, that the method of assessment be changed so that all parties on the system contribute to the financing of Road Creek Distribution System in accordance with the water they received. The distribution system is presently financed by the well owners in accordance with an agreement between the Road Creek surface water users and the well owners. It was pointed out that this adjustment could not be done at this time since none of the Road Creek surface water users were represented. Spencer Rees moved and Blaine Chappell seconded that Grant Chappell be recommended as 1976 Commissioner to the State Engineer. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous.

The matter of the 1976 budget for the Lower Fremont River System was then brought up. The matter of the 4800 mile limitation was discussed. It was moved by Golden Durfey and seconded by Boyd Black that the mileage be raised to 6000 miles on Budget Item 4, Commissioners Travel Expense. Voting in favor of the motion was unanimous. Don Norseth then read the proposed 1976 Budget. Boyd Black moved and Golden Durfey seconded that the 1976 Budget be as read by Mr. Norseth and that the 1976 assessment be the same as the 1975 assessment.

Grant Chappell read his 1975 Commissioner's Report. There were questions and discussion on Capitol Reef National Park useage of water and also questions on ~~the on~~ the Garkane Canal. Mr. Chappell indicated that Mr. Wallace, Park Superintendent, was more than cooperative during time of low flow. It was stated that Mr. Wallace had said that the Park Service was not dependent upon farming for a living and would cut their uses to the minimum during low flow periods. The discussion on the Garkane Canal concerned maintenance. Torrey Irrigation Company appeared to be the main beneficiary of using the canal as a regulating reservoir. It was indicated, however, that Torrey Irrigation Company was not interested in maintaining the canal since it appeared that Aldrich Dam or some alternative thereto would solve existing problems.

There was then discussion on the Road Creek system. Mr. Chappell indicated that since his work had been reduced because of the Road Creek pressure pipeline construction during 1975, he was invoicing for only \$250.00 rather than the \$400.00. He indicated, however that since the work load would be at least back to normal for 1976, his 1976 services would cost the previously agreed upon \$400.00. It was moved by Spencer Rees and seconded by Blaine Chappell that the budget and assessment be the same as 1975. Voting for the motion was unanimous. Mr. Rees also indicated that some effort should be made to change the assessment so that all beneficiaries are able to contribute to the distribution system assessment. Mr. Norseth indicated that he would hold the assessment open until May 10, 1976. Mr. Rees indicated that he would contact the major Road Creek surface water users. If they would concur to changing the assessment, a meeting would be held sometime prior to May 10th to finalize the assessment.

The meeting was then adjourned.